

Appl. No. 10/583,818
Amdt. dated July 22, 2010
Reply to Office Action of April 27, 2010

Remarks

The present amendment responds to the Official Action dated April 27, 2010. The Official Action objected to informalities in the specification. Claims 1-6 were objected to as informal. Claim 1 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) based on Idoguchi Japanese Application 04-110239 (Idoguchi). Claims 2-6 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) based on Idoguchi in view of Okai U.S. Patent No. 6,682,153 (Okai). These grounds of rejection are addressed below. The specification has been amended to correct minor informalities, and a new Abstract has been provided. Claim 1 has been amended to be more clear and distinct. Claims 1-6 are presently pending.

Information Disclosure Statement

In response to the indication made by the Examiner at page 2, paragraph 4 of the Official Action with respect to the listing of references in the specification, the relevant references will be separately submitted in an Information Disclosure Statement (IDS).

Specification and Abstract

A new Abstract has been provided.

In the specification, the expression "the vehicle speed equal to ore more than" at page 8, line 5 of the specification is corrected to "the vehicle speed equal to or more than".

The expression "alarm lump 5" at page 13, line 16 is correct to "alarm lamp 5".

The expression "4 meters/s" at page 16, line 5 of the specification has been corrected to "4 m/s".

The expression "0.59 meter m/s²" at page 16, line 21 of the specification is corrected to "0.59 m/s²".

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The Art Rejections

As addressed in greater detail below, Idoguchi does not support the Official Action's reading of it and the rejections based thereupon should be reconsidered and withdrawn in light of the present amendment. Further, the Applicants do not acquiesce in the analysis of Idoguchi made by the Official Action and respectfully traverse the Official Action's analysis underlying its rejections.

Claim 1 has been amended by adding a limitation based on the description found at paragraph [0009] of the specification. Additionally, a number of hyphens have been removed.

Idoguchi discloses determining the presence or absence of a fault of an acceleration sensor. Idoguchi does not disclose and does not suggest that the above issue is addressed in the manner described by the present invention, and more particularly, Idoguchi does not address the limitation added by the current amendment.

Okai corresponds to JP-A-2003-63375, which is one of the related-art documents addressed in the specification of the present application. Okai addresses an apparatus and a method for detecting an output-stuck fault of a vehicle body acceleration sensor. It does not disclose and does not suggest the approach addressed by the present invention, and more particularly Okai does not address the limitation added in the current amendment.

Consequently, it is believed that the invention according to the present application after the amendment sufficiently satisfies the patentability requirements, and it is respectfully requested that an examination should be made again on the basis of the content after the amendment.

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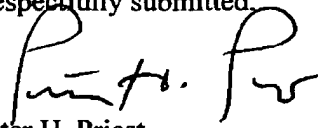
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Conclusion

All of the presently pending claims, as amended, appearing to define over the applied references, withdrawal of the present rejection and prompt allowance are requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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